

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BELFAS 00073 041419Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15
DHA-02 MCT-01 /085 W
-----050404Z 022363 /72-61

R 041347Z MAR 77
FM AMCONSUL BELFAST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1596
INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USNAVCOMMSTA LONDONDERRY

UNCLAS BELFAST 073

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, UK, EI
SUBJECT: ATTACKS ON BUSINESSMEN CONTINUE

REF: (A) BELFAST 72 (B) BELFAST 12 (NOTAL)

1. THREE NORTHERN IRELAND BUSINESSMEN HAVE BEEN SHOT AND
FOUR HAVE BEEN WOUNDED BY TERRORISTS SINCE THE DEATH OF
JEFFREY AGATE LAST MONTH. MOST ATTACKS HAVE BEEN CLAIMED BY
THE PROVISIONAL IRA. TWO OF THE VICTIMS WERE MEMBERS OF
THE ORANGE ORDER BUT THERE IS NO APPARENT LINKAGE BETWEEN THE
VICTIMS EXCEPT THAT THEY WERE TARGETS OF "ECONOMIC
WARFARE." IN BELFAST HOMES OF TWO PROMINENT LOCAL BUSINESSMEN
IN WELL-TO-DO MALONE ROAD AREA WERE BOMBED NIGHT MARCH 3-4.

2. OFFICIAL REPUBLICANS HAVE CONDEMNED KILLINGS AS LIKELY
TO PROVOKE SECTARIAN RETALIATION. THIS MAY BE EXACTLY WHAT
PROVISIONALS WANT IN ORDER STRENGTHEN THEIR SUPPORT IN
REPUBLICAN AREAS. ATTACKS ON POLICEMEN AND BUSINESSMEN PROBABLY
MOTIVATED ONE RETALIATION THAT MISFIRED. TWO MEMBERS ULSTER
VOLUNTEER FORCE WERE KILLED NIGHT FEBRUARY 27 BY PREMATURE
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 BELFAS 00073 041419Z

EXPLOSION BOMB THEY APPARENTLY WERE CARRYING TO CATHOLIC
DRINKING CLUB IN WHICH THERE SOME 150 PATRONS AT TIME.
THERE ALSO RENEWED DEMANDS FOR DEATH PENALTY FOR TERRORIST ACTS.

3. THIS ATMOSPHERE EXPLAINS CURRENT LOCAL UPROAR FROM LOYALISTS
ABOUT CRITICISM OF POLICE. LATEST ISSUE IS BBC TELEVISION
PROGRAM SHOWN NATIONWIDE MARCH 2 IN WHICH TWO COUNTY

FERMANAGH MEN ALLEGED THEY ABUSED BY ROYAL ULSTER CONSTABULARY (RUC) DURING INTERROGATION. LOYALISTS HAVE CONSISTENTLY CLAIMED BBC SYMPATHETIC TO "REPUBLICANS" AND OFFICIAL UNIONISTS, VANGUARD UNIONISTS AND ORANGE ORDER HAVE EXPRESSED OUTRAGE AT TIMING AND "PROPAGANDA" NATURE OF PROGRAM. SECRETARY OF STATE ROY MASON WHO HAS SKIRMISHED WITH BBC BEFORE (REFTEL B) IS ALSO REPORTED TO BE DISPLEASED.

4. CONGEN HAS NO RPT NO KNOWLEDGE OF WHETHER THERE SUBSTANCE TO CHARGES OF POLICE BRUTALITY. POLICE CLAIM THAT DURING INTERROGATIONS THEY ARE "MOST TIGHTLY CONTROLLED POLICE FORCE IN THE WORLD." SO FAR THIS YEAR THERE HAVE BEEN 15 MORE FORMAL COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE RUC THAN THE 300 FOR THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR. IT DOES APPEAR THAT THE RATE OF RECRUITMENT FOR ROMAN CATHOLICS IS GOING UP SLOWLY BUT THE FACTOR OF HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT IS PROBABLY AT LEAST AS IMPORTANT IN THIS AS IS GROWING ACCEPTANCE OF RUC.

SPICER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BUSINESSMEN, CIVIL DISORDERS, TERRORISTS, ECONOMIC WARFARE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 04-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BELFAS00073
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770076-0221
Format: TEL
From: BELFAST
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770394/aaaadewr.tel
Line Count: 81
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 64f137be-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 BELFAST 72, 77 BELFAST 12
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22-Sep-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3212572
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ATTACKS ON BUSINESSMEN CONTINUE
TAGS: PINT, UK, EI, IRA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/64f137be-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009